

Arranging Flowers

Today's flower bouquets have a very simple look that shows off the natural beauty and elegance of fresh-cut flowers. You don't need any special tools to achieve this look – just fresh flowers.

Here are a few tips:



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Classic Long Stemmed Roses

1) Cut 1 inch off your stems. Leave a few stems a bit longer for the center.

2) Start arranging the greens/roses from the outside edge of the vase, crisscrossing stems as you insert them. This will create a natural grid that will help hold your center roses in place. Keep adding roses spiraling inwards as you go.

3) Insert the longer stemmed roses into the middle of the grid to help keep them upright.

4) Cut filler flowers slightly shorter than roses and tuck in-between blooms or around the outside as shown.



Style Tip: 12-18 long stemmed roses look best in a tall slender, slightly flared vase. This keeps the arrangement looking full. For 24 or more roses, use a vase with a wider flare to achieve the same classic look.

Modern Short-Cut Roses

1) Choose shorter vases or containers.

2) Strip nearly all the foliage off your rose stems.

3) Cut your roses so 1-3 inches of stem shows above the rim of the vase (in a wider container, your roses will have a tendency to lie diagonally so your stems will need to be a bit longer).

4) Start arranging your roses from the outside of the vase spiraling inwards as you go. The center roses will stand more upright and should be slightly taller than the ones on the sides.

5) Add any greenery or filler around the outside after all roses are in your vase.



Style Tip: Instead of traditional vases, make multiple mini arrangements using containers you can find around your house. Try something new like a cappuccino mug, brandy snifter, votives or water-tight flower pots (see example on front cover).

Mixed Bouquets

1) Cut most stems to about twice the size of your vase (shorter for a fuller look). Leave a few stems an inch longer for the center.

2) First, insert greens and/or filler flowers, criss-crossing stems as you insert them in the vase. This will create a grid that will help hold your other flowers in place.

3) For remaining flowers, start at the rim of your vase and work in a spiral toward the center. Place the longer stems upright in the center of the bouquet.



Style Tip: When your traditional bouquet is starting to fade, cut the remaining blooms really short, put them in smaller containers and enjoy them for a few more days.

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1.800.ProFlowers

(1.800.776.3569)